

What is claimed is:

1. A user-controlled system for negotiating the sale and tracking the delivery of an item across a network, said system comprising:

5 a user input module configured to operate on a first computer station located at a first location and communicate with a database,  
said user input module being further configured to receive an input from a user;  
a sale negotiation module configured to communicate with the database, and achieve a sale price for the item; and  
a generator module configured to request and provide a readable medium to the user at  
10 the first location and to communicate with the database,  
said medium including computer-readable codes matched to the input.

2. The system as claimed in claim 1; and  
a receiver input module accessible at a second location and configured to communicate  
15 with the database,  
said receiver input module being further configured to produce a delivery indicator.

3. The system as claimed in claim 2,  
said receiver input module being configured to operate on a second computer station at  
20 the second location, and to receive input from a scanning device.

4. The system as claimed in claim 2,  
said input and indicator being stored in a record on the database; and  
a query execution module configured to operate on the first computer station and  
25 communicate with the database,  
said query execution module being further configured to request and retrieve at least a portion of the record.

5. The system as claimed in claim 4,  
30 said medium being stored in the record.

6. The system as claimed in claim 2; and  
a payment request module communicating with the database, and configured to initiate a user selected action upon production of the delivery indicator.

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- 5           7.       The system as claimed in claim 6,  
said action being selected from the group consisting essentially of paying the sale price to  
the user, making a charitable contribution on behalf of the user, and crediting an  
existing account.
8.       The system as claimed in claim 1,  
said database being stored on a second computer station at a second location, wherein the  
second station communicates with the first station across the network.
- 10          9.       The system as claimed in claim 1,  
said sale negotiation module being configured to receive an asking price from the user.
10.      The system as claimed in claim 1,  
said network comprising a plurality of interconnected networks hosting a plurality of  
15       computer work-stations.
11.      The system as claimed in claim 1; and  
a graphical user interface module configured to communicate with the user input module,  
sale negotiation module, and generator module,  
20       said graphical user interface module being further configured to be displayed on an output  
device connected to the first computer station.
12.      The system as claimed in claim 11,  
said graphical user interface module including an SQL query text editor configured to  
25       receive a query from the user.
13.      The system as claimed in claim 1,  
said medium being provided to the user within five hours from the request.
- 30          14.      The system as claimed in claim 13,  
said medium being provided to the user within five minutes from the request.
15.      The system as claimed in claim 1; and  
an administration module configured to communicate with and modify at least a portion  
35       of the database.

16. A user-controlled method of negotiating the sale and tracking delivery of an item across a network, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving user identification input from a user at a first location;
- (b) achieving a sale price for the item at the first location;
- 5 (c) requesting and providing a readable medium at the first location, wherein the medium is provided to the user within a period of time from the request, and includes computer-readable codes matched to the input;
- (d) attaching the medium to the item and delivering the medium and item to a second location remotely located from the first location; and
- 10 (e) reading the medium and producing a delivery indicator at the second location.

17. The method as claimed in claim 16; and

- (f) initiating a user selected action upon production of the delivery indicator at the second location.

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18. The method as claimed in claim 17, said action being selected from the group consisting essentially of paying the sale price to the user, making a charitable contribution on behalf of the user, and crediting an existing account.

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19. The method as claimed in claim 16, steps (a),(b),(c) and (e) including the steps of storing the price, input, medium and indicator in a record on a database.

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20. The method as claimed in claim 19; and (f) accessing at least a portion of said record at the first location.

21. The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said database is stored at a third location.

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22. The method as claimed in claim 16, step (b) including the steps of receiving an asking price from the user.

23. The method as claimed in claim 16,

steps (b) and (c) including the steps of achieving the sale price and providing the medium  
at a first computer station at the first location; and  
step (e) including the steps of producing the indicator at a second computer station  
located at the second location, wherein the first and second computer stations  
communicate over the network.

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24. The method as claimed in claim 23; and  
(f) providing a graphical user interface configured to operate on the first and second  
computer stations.

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25. The method as claimed in claim 16,  
step (c) including the steps of providing the medium to the user within five hours from the  
request.

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26. The method as claimed in claim 25,  
step (c) further including the steps of providing the medium to the user within five  
minutes from the request.

27. An article of manufacture comprising program storage medium readable by a processor and embodying one or more instructions executable by the processor to perform a method of negotiating the sale and tracking the delivery of an item, the method comprising:

receiving user identification input from a user;

5 achieving a sale price for the item;

requesting and providing a readable medium, wherein the medium is provided to the user within a period from the request, and includes computer-readable codes matched to the input;

producing a delivery indicator; and

10 storing the input, sale price, medium, and indicator in a record on a database.

28. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 27, wherein the method further comprises initiating a requested action by the user upon production of the delivery indicator.

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29. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 28, wherein said action is selected from the group consisting essentially of paying the sale price to the user, making a charitable contribution on behalf of the user, and crediting an existing account.

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30. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 27, wherein the method further comprises accessing a user-selected portion of the database at the first location.

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31. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 30, wherein the method further comprises modifying the user-selected portion.

32. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 27, wherein the method further comprises receiving an asking price from the user prior to achieving the sale price.

33. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 27, wherein the method further comprises providing a graphical user interface.

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34. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 27, wherein the period is not greater than five hours.

35. The article of manufacture as claimed in claim 34, wherein the period is not greater than five minutes.